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# Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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JUN 15 1958

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, MAY 26, 1958

VOLUME 76

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NUMBER 21

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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## NEW PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U. S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Available (single copies) free to persons in the U. S. from the Foreign Agricultural Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Room 5922. Phone: REpublic 7-4142, Ext. 2445.

Cacao Production Increasing in the Cameroun. Foreign Agriculture Circular  
FCB 2-58.

West Germany Authorizes Increase in Hops Area. Foreign Agriculture Circular  
FH 3-58.

## MARCH U. S. TOBACCO EXPORTS RISE

U. S. exports of unmanufactured tobacco in March 1958 totaled 35.6 million pounds, an increase of 9.6 percent from March 1957. The value, at \$24.5 million, was 12.4 percent above a year earlier.

Exports of all kinds of tobacco, except Black Fat, were larger than in March a year ago. Burley showed a particularly significant gain, increasing from 1.4 million pounds in March 1957 to 3.5 million in March 1958.

Exports of unmanufactured tobacco for the first 3 months of calendar 1958 totaled 82.5 million pounds--down 8.2 percent from the 89.9 million exported during the period a year earlier. For the first 9 months of the 1957-58 fiscal year, exports totaled 394 million pounds--down about 2 percent from the same period in 1956-57. But the value of 1957-58 exports through March was 6 percent larger than in July 1956-March 1957.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: U. S. exports, by type and export weight, January-March 1957 and 1958, with percent change

Type	March		Percent change	January-March		Percent change
	1957	1958		1957	1958	
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
Flue-cured.....	25,535	26,112	+2.3	70,469	59,716	-15.3
Burley.....	1,378	3,529	+156.1	5,490	8,918	+62.4
Dark-fired Ky.-Tenn. ...	1,847	2,612	+41.4	5,379	5,544	+3.1
Va. fire-cured 1/.....	504	629	+24.8	1,438	1,270	-11.7
Maryland.....	1,398	1,465	+4.8	2,723	2,934	+7.7
Green River.....	70	202	+188.6	453	411	-9.3
One Sucker.....	99	103	+4.0	709	324	-54.3
Black Fat, etc. ....	550	216	-60.7	864	895	+3.6
Cigar wrapper.....	329	416	+26.4	747	1,140	+52.6
Cigar binder.....	202	111	-45.0	358	657	+83.5
Cigar filler.....	--	--	--	29	8	-72.4
Other.....	520	157	-69.8	1,228	710	-42.2
Total.....	32,432	35,552	+9.6	89,887	82,527	-8.2
Declared value (Million dollars).....	21.8	24.5	+12.4	60.7	59.0	-2.8

1/ Includes sun-cured.

Compiled in the Foreign Agricultural Service from records of the Bureau of the Census.



# DANISH IMPORTS OF UNMANUFACTURED TOBACCO DECLINE IN 1957

Danish imports of unmanufactured tobacco for consumption declined in 1957 to 24.9 million pounds, compared with 26.6 million in 1956. The decline reflects the end of factory stock-building which had jumped duty-paid imports from 21.3 million pounds in 1955 to 26.6 in 1956.

The United States remained the major source, supplying 13.0 million pounds in 1957, about 52 percent of the total. Imports from Brazil, another major supplier, declined slightly in 1957, while imports from Indonesia and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland rose slightly.

Average prices per pound paid to various suppliers during 1957 were, in terms of U.S. cents per pound: United States, 70.6; Rhodesias-Nyasaland, 44.6; India, 55.4; and Turkey, 75.1.

## SPAIN IMPORTS MORE U.S. LEAF IN 1957

Spanish imports of unmanufactured tobacco from the United States rose from 5.3 million pounds in 1956 to 6.9 million in 1957 although total leaf imports declined from 45.6 million to 43.3 million pounds. Imports from Brazil showed the largest increase, from 4.4 million pounds in 1956 to 15.6 million in 1957. Imports from the Philippine Republic and Cuba were considerably smaller than in 1956, while the Dominican Republic, which supplied 3.6 million pounds in 1956, supplied none in 1957.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Spain, imports by country of origin, 1955-57

Country of origin	1955	1956	1957
	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>
United States.....	4,633	5,332	6,933
Brazil.....	11,796	4,410	15,613
Philippine Republic.....	11,492	20,917	10,961
Cuba.....	10,095	11,377	8,832
Dominican Republic.....	11,602	3,580	1/
Other countries.....	769	--	378
Total.....	50,387	45,616	43,267

1/ If any, included in other.

### CANADIAN GROWERS GOT HIGH PRICE FOR TOBACCO IN 1957

Canadian tobacco farmers sold 148 million pounds of 1957 flue-cured tobacco through the new auction system in Ontario for an average price equal to 52.3 U.S. cents per pound. The 1956 crop averaged the equivalent of 48.2 U.S. cents per pound. In addition, Quebec growers sold 3.7 million pounds in 1957 at an average price equal to 51.0 U.S. cents per pound.

This was the first tobacco crop sold under the Dutch Clock auction system. There were a number of problems in this first year of operation, and many buyers and growers were skeptical about the new system. Wide fluctuations in prices offered for a particular grade and the slowness of sales created especially difficult problems.

Sales were speeded up by the pallet system whereby 30 bales of the same grade were placed on sale as a lot. This raised sales to more than 2 million pounds per day. The Ontario Flue-cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board was assured that a substantial government loan would be made available if needed to stabilize prices, but this did not prove necessary.

### CIGARETTE PRICES RISE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Several cigarette manufacturers in the Union of South Africa have recently raised retail prices the equivalent of 1.2 U.S. cents per pack of 20. Manufacturers say this was necessary to help absorb the increased costs of raw materials.

Imported cigarettes have also increased in price but pipe tobacco prices are to remain at present levels.

### BELGIAN CONGO'S CIGARETTE CONSUMPTION LARGER

Cigarette consumption in the Belgian Congo rose sharply in 1957 to 4,346 million pieces, compared with 3,937 million in 1956. A further substantial rise is expected for 1958. More cigarettes are being manufactured locally, with consequent drop in imports.

### COLOMBIA OPENING FACTORY TO REPAIR AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

A \$4-million factory to renovate industrial and agricultural machinery is being built in Colombia. The Colombian Government and private industry, both local and foreign, are sharing the expense. The repair "shop" is expected to reduce the need for imports of new machinery over the next 2 or 3 years.

## BELGIUM EXPECTS TO HAVE SURPLUS OF SOFT WHEAT FOR EXPORT

If prospects for a bumper wheat crop in Belgium materialize, that country will have an export surplus of from 4.5 to 5.5 million bushels of wheat in 1958-59.

Unless this surplus can be exported, Belgian flour millers probably will not be permitted to continue using 50 percent imported wheat (see Foreign Crops and Markets, March 24, 1958). While the government is expected to try actively to export the surplus, it is not likely to announce its 1958-59 wheat policy until after the June 1 elections and the formation of a new cabinet.

Measures in recent years requiring flour millers to purchase virtually the entire commercial supply of home-grown soft wheat at or near the producer "directional" price, fixed at 470 Belgian francs per 100 kg. (\$2.56 per bushel) for the current marketing season, encouraged farmers to sow an alltime record area of 225,000 hectares (556,000 acres). Early forecasts place the 1958 crop at 900,000 metric tons (33.0 million bushels), the highest on record. The previous record was 27.6 million bushels in 1957. Good growing conditions have prevailed thus far.

The U. S. share of Belgium's wheat market is predominantly influenced by the government's wheat policy, and by price and quality competition with Canada. Belgian wheat imports in 1956-57 totaled 475,400 metric tons. Of that quantity, 53.4 percent was supplied by Canada and 41.3 percent by the United States. Annual requirements, including both imported and home-grown wheat, total approximately 1,180,000 metric tons (43.4 million bushels).

One of the main points in the government's wheat policy has been the enforcement of greater use of locally grown soft wheat in flour. This served to maintain producer prices for home-grown soft wheat at or near the "directional" level and encouraged increased wheat production. However, the higher the compulsory use, the greater were the complaints of flour millers who say they require a minimum of 50 percent high protein (hard) wheat for satisfactory bread flour. Such wheat must be imported.

Accordingly, early this year the Government authorized millers to increased their use of imported wheat to 50 percent compared with the previous maximum of 25 percent, but only on condition that an equivalent quantity of domestic soft wheat is exported. To facilitate exports, millers were granted a subsidy equal to the difference between the directional price they had to pay for home-grown soft wheat and the world market price, which is much lower.



# DENMARK REDUCES MIXING RATE FOR DOMESTIC WHEAT AND RYE

Denmark has lowered the compulsory incorporation rate of domestic bread grains in local flour production to 50 percent in the case of both wheat and rye. The rate previously in effect was 70 percent for wheat and 90 percent for rye (see Foreign Crops and Markets, March 31, 1958.) Any increase in wheat imports that might result from this reduction is expected to be limited mainly to soft wheat from European sources. The reason given for reducing the mixing rates was that inventories of these grains were too low to meet milling requirements during the remainder of the current marketing season.

# COLOMBIA'S EXPORTS DROP

Preliminary data show a drop in quantity and value of most Colombian export commodities in 1957.

Estimated total export dollar earnings, declining for the third consecutive year, decreased from \$537,009,000 in 1956 to \$515,754,100 in 1957. Earnings from coffee, Colombia's principal export product, were substantially smaller due to lower prices and smaller shipments; earnings from most other important exports were also lower except for crude petroleum and fuel oil.

Exports of green coffee totaled about 4.8 million sacks (132.276 pounds each)--5 percent less than 1956 exports by volume and the smallest quantity shipped since 1951. Colombia and other coffee-producing countries of Latin America are attempting to stabilize coffee prices through reduced shipments under an agreement signed in Mexico City in October 1957. The value of coffee exports in 1957 were estimated at \$391.4 million, a decline of \$20.1 million from the preceding year.

Banana exports of 8.3 million stems in 1957 dropped 13-percent in quantity from a year earlier, and a \$5 million decrease in value. The downturn in exports is primarily attributed to hurricane damage and, to a much lesser extent, disease problems.

Sugar, a relatively new export, dropped from the abnormally high level of 117 million pounds in 1956 to only 2.4 million pounds last year, while the value fell from a level of over \$2 million to \$105,500. Local production in 1957 did not meet domestic demand and much had to be imported during the latter part of the year.

Despite the loss in export earnings in 1957, Colombia was aided by U. S. Public Law 480 in importing a record volume of U. S. farm products. The value of these imports was estimated at \$33.6 million and consisted mostly of cotton, cottonseed oil, wheat and wheat flour, barley malt, tallow, and vegetable oils.

## ECUADORAN FLOUR MILL IN DIFFICULTY

Ecuador's largest flour mill, located in Guayaquil, has announced the beginning of its liquidation. The company reports that it cannot stay in business with taxes at current levels and the fixed selling price of flour. The Ecuadoran Minister of Production is conferring with the National Wheat Commission and flour millers in the hope of finding an equitable solution, but he has stated that he does not believe the price of flour should be increased.

## ESTIMATES FOR 1958 AUSTRALIAN DRIED VINE-FRUIT PACKS LOWERED SLIGHTLY

Strong demand from wineries is responsible for the reduction in the estimate for the 1958 Australian currant pack from 14,000 short tons to 12,500 tons. There has been a smaller reduction in the estimates for sultanas, now forecast at 76,000 tons, compared with the earlier estimate of 78,000 tons, but still above the 1957 pack of 70,200 tons.

Shipments of 1958-pack Australian dried vine-fruits to the United Kingdom began in April and are expected to continue at the rate of about 5,500 tons monthly until September. According to Australian sources, there is resistance on the U.K. market to the level of prices which prevailed for the 1957 crop, leading to speculation that the present Australian pack prices may average slightly less than those of the previous season.

## INSTANT COFFEE FACTORY OPENS IN ISRAEL

A plant for processing instant coffee has opened at Safad, Israel. Reported monthly capacity is 7.5 metric tons (125 bags) for local consumption, while workers in additional shifts can operate for exports. Local sale price was fixed at the equivalent of \$1.80 for a jar containing about 5 ounces; taxes included in this amount, however, amount to over \$1.00.

## U.S. ALFALFA SEED EXPORTS SET NEW RECORD

The United States exported nearly twice as much seed in March 1958 as it did in the same month last year, bringing the total for the first 9 months of the current crop year to 39.6 million pounds--more than 2 million pounds over last year's corresponding period.

Alfalfa seed exports have, to date, exceeded the alltime crop-year total of 17,060 pounds attained last year.

Canada, Poland, and West Germany received the largest U. S. seed shipments in the month of March. Fescues, Kentucky bluegrass, and timothy have moved in substantial volume.

Grass and Legume Seeds: U. S. exports, March 1958, with comparisons

Kind of seed	March		July 1 to March 31	
	1957	1958	1956-57	1957-58
	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>	1,000 <u>pounds</u>
Alfalfa, certified.....	1/	1,903	1/	1/
Alfalfa, uncertified.....	1/	343	1/	1/
Alfalfa, total.....	1,097	2,246	15,912	17,282
Alsike.....	3	221	576	725
Ladino.....	1/	115	1/	1/
Clovers, other.....	497	140	5,908	3,223
Bentgrass.....	1/	206	1/	1/
Fescue.....	183	373	2,591	3,134
Kentucky bluegrass.....	53	100	860	935
Orchardgrass.....	0	15	7	174
Redtop.....	11	65	586	667
Timothy.....	20	276	1,083	2,222
Grasses, other.....	426	766	10,095	11,267
Total.....	2,290	4,523	37,618	39,634

1/ Prior to January 1, 1958, certified and uncertified alfalfa combined; Ladino included in "other clovers"; and bentgrass included in "other grasses".

#### VENEZUELA TO IMPORT BEEF

Venezuela has announced that it soon will import beef from countries free of foot-and-mouth disease. Up to now Venezuelan officials believed that domestic production would meet demand. However, a shortage is now foreseen until the newly planned cattle expansion plan takes effect (see Foreign Crops and Markets, March 3, 1958).

Countries from which Venezuela might import beef are the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Central America, Mexico, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Ireland. Although Venezuela is an important importer of U. S. pork, it is not expected that any large shipments of U. S. beef will be made under the announced program.



## URUGUAYAN COURTS BLOCK MEAT PACKING PLANT TAKEOVER

The Uruguayan Courts have refused to allow the Ministry of the Interior to take over the Swift de la Plata Meat Packing plant. The plant is one of two closed late last year; on April 26 the government announced it was taking over control (see Foreign Crops and Markets, May 19, 1958).

## JAPAN IMPORTS SLIGHTLY LESS WOOL IN 1957

Japan's imports of raw wool in 1957 were 275 million pounds, compared with 282 million pounds in 1956. This reflects the relatively depressed condition of the wool industry during the second half of 1957.

Japan's output of woolen yarn was cut back 30 percent in July and worsted yarn output was cut 25 percent in December in an attempt to maintain prices and reduce large surplus stocks. But cutbacks still apply, and an additional 5 percent reduction in worsted yarn is in effect for the April-June quarter. A further decline in raw wool imports is expected in 1958.

Imports of raw wool and tops were valued at \$265 million, while exports of wool products were about \$100 million in 1957. Australia supplies the bulk of Japan's wool purchases, while the United States is the leading market for wool products.

## U. K. ANNOUNCES SCHEDULE OF PRICES FOR THE 1958 WOOL CLIP

The British Wool Marketing Board recently announced a schedule of fixed prices for the 1958 clip. The new schedule is based on an overall price guarantee of 65.6 cents per pound (the same as last season) but the price paid to farmers will be 59.3 cents after deducting the Wool Board's marketing costs.

Farmers' prices are slightly less than last year due to increased marketing costs resulting from higher interest rates late last season. The Wool Board's marketing costs are highly susceptible to changes in interest rates since its wool purchases from farmers are seasonal but auction sales are spread out over the year.

Although the average price to farmers is 59.3 cents, the price of individual grades varies with the relative market demand in the past year. Thus prices for finer types are slightly higher and carpet types are lower than in 1957.

## NEW ZEALAND WOOL PRICES DROP FURTHER

New Zealand wool values experienced some of the sharpest declines of the season at the Christchurch sale on April 21 and at Invercargill on April 26 and 29.



About one-fourth of the total offering at each sale was purchased by the New Zealand Wool Commission at the support level. Purchases of 8,367 bales at Christchurch and 11,516 bales at Invercargill were much larger than at previous sales. Bidding by the Wool Commission on a wide range of types indicates that most types are very near the support level. Following is a comparison of auction prices (greasy ex-store) for selected types:

<u>Description</u>		<u>Type</u>	Dunedin	Christchurch	Invercargill
			<u>Oct. 25, 1957</u>	<u>Apr. 21, 1958</u>	<u>Apr. 29, 1958</u>
			<u>- - - - - U. S. cents per pound - - - - -</u>		
Extra fine crossbred	93B	50/56's	69	51	48
Fine crossbred	100B	50's	64	47	43
Medium crossbred	114B	46/50's	61	43	40
Strong crossbred	128B	46/48's	60	41	39

Source: New Zealand Wool Commission.

DOMINION WOOL PRICES  
DECLINE IN APRIL

Dominion wool prices during April again averaged below prices the previous month except for the finer types. Declines ranged from 2 percent on good merino wools up to 10 percent on New Zealand crossbreds. Purchases by the South African Wool Board and the New Zealand Wool Commission during April represented a large part of the offerings by each country.

WOOL: Clean cost, c.i.f. in the United Kingdom, based on auction sales in the Dominions and the United Kingdom

Quality	April 1957	September 1957	January 1958	February 1958	March 1958	April 1958
U. S. dollars per pound						
70's.....	1.70	1.49	1.25	1.31	1.21	1.21
64's.....	1.60	1.40	1.14	1.19	1.10	1.10
60's.....	1.47	1.33	1.10	1.13	1.05	1.03
58's.....	1.34	1.27	1.04	1.07	.99	.96
56's.....	1.24	1.13	.93	.94	.89	.82
50's.....	1.04	.97	.78	.77	.71	.67
48's.....	1.00	.93	.76	.75	.69	.62
46's.....	.98	.91	.74	.72	.66	.61

Source: New Zealand Wool Commission (London Agency).

### CUBA INCREASES ITS 1958 SUGAR OUTPUT LIMIT

Following discussions between members of the Cuban Sugar Stabilization Institute and the Director of the Sugar Branch of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Stabilization Institute recommended an increase of 100,000 Spanish long tons (113,581 short tons) in its 1958 sugar production. This brings Cuba's 1958 sugar output to 5,600,000 Spanish long tons (6,360,536 short tons).

It is understood that in addition to this quantity of sugar, Cuba will make the equivalent of 30,000 Spanish long tons (34,074 short tons) of sugar in the form of liquid sugar to supply the U. S. liquid sugar quota for Cuba.

While some Cuban mills are near the end of their operating season, some 90 to 100 mills are expected to participate in the increased production. The Cuban Government also is reported ready, if necessary, to transfer to its export quota for the United States up to 50,000 Spanish long tons (56,796 short tons) of its quota for local consumption set at 300,000 Spanish long tons (340,743 short tons).

### CHILE ALLOWS DUTY-FREE OILSEED IMPORTS FROM ECUADOR

A recently signed trade agreement between Chile and Ecuador allows for free entry into Chile of peanuts and certain other oilseeds, including cottonseed, from Ecuador.

However, the Chilean vegetable oil industry is not expected to purchase any substantial volume of oilseeds, but probably will continue to import semi-refined oil, mostly from Argentina. The Chilean industry prefers to import the oil because the cost of imported oilseeds and crushing expenses are too high for the yield of oil obtained.

### EGYPT'S COTTONSEED AND COTTONSEED OIL SUPPLIES HIGHER FOR 1957-58

Egypt probably will import about 33,000 short tons of cottonseed from the Sudan, and 22,000 to 33,000 tons of cottonseed oil from Communist China in 1957-58 (September 1-August 31.)

Domestic cottonseed production is forecast at almost one-fourth more than in 1956-57. Thus Egypt has more cottonseed and cottonseed oil this year than in 1956-57.

Egyptian use of cottonseed oil also is rising. Consumption in 1957-58 is forecast at 108,000 tons, compared with 102,000 in 1956-57 and 94,800 in 1955-56.

All of Egypt's cottonseed imports are from the Sudan and supplement the domestic supply, which does not meet the needs of the high-capacity Egyptian crushing mills. Most of the imported cottonseed is crushed in the Alexandria area, and the oil exported. Only small quantities of the oil from imported seed is used locally.

OILS AND OILSEEDS: Egypt, exports and imports,  
calendar years 1956 and 1957

EXPORTS

Oils	1956	1957 <sup>1/</sup>	Oilseeds	1956	1957 <sup>1/</sup>
	Short	Short		Short	Short
	tons	tons		tons	tons
EDIBLE			EDIBLE		
Cottonseed.....	4,955	6,336	Peanuts, unshelled....	5,997	8,357
Peanut.....	273	68	Peanuts, shelled.....	2,381	8,062
Sesame.....	15	12	Sesame seed.....	7,610	7,153
Total.....	5,243	6,416	Total.....	15,988	23,572
INDUSTRIAL					
Linseed.....	3	2	Sesame cake 2/.....	218	181

IMPORTS

EDIBLE			EDIBLE		
Cottonseed.....	11,000	24,835	Cottonseed.....	37,184	34,850
Olive 3/.....	468	1,494	Peanuts, unshelled....	2,968	249
Other.....	92	7	Peanuts, shelled.....	---	3,414
Total.....	11,560	26,336	Sesame seed.....	8,437	8,829
PALM			Total.....	48,589	47,342
Coconut.....	8,263	5,771	INDUSTRIAL		
INDUSTRIAL			Flaxseed.....	---	2,493
Linseed.....	310	2	Castor beans.....	4	105
Castor.....	71	200	Total.....	4	2,598
Total.....	381	202			

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2/</sup> "Tehina"--a sesame pulp used in sweets. <sup>3/</sup> Edible and inedible.

Edible oil imports in calendar 1957 were up sharply as a result of increased cottonseed oil imports, more than 80 percent of which came from Communist China. Imports of inedible oils, although small, were only one-half as large as 1957 as in 1956.

Imports of oilseeds normally crushed for edible oil declined slightly as a result of smaller cottonseed imports from the Sudan. However, sesame seed imports were up about 400 tons.



#### GHANA TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

The Government of Ghana plans to establish a National Research Council to conduct research in a wide field of subjects within Ghana and to maintain liaison with organizations outside the country.

A number of committees will be set up which will be responsible for research institutes to carry out the actual work. Four committees will be set up for agricultural, medical, industrial, social and economic research. Institutes will be established for research in cocoa, parasitology, entomology, and economic and social research.

Cocoa research is now carried out by the West African Cocoa Research Institute, with stations in Tafo, Ghana, and Ibadan, Nigeria. Under the new plans, the Cocoa Research Station at Tafo will become a national research institute under the National Research Council, but will maintain close liaison with the Ibadan station. Facilities will be provided as before for other West African government to share in the results of the work undertaken at Tafo.

#### INDIA'S CASTOR BEAN PRODUCTION DOWN ONE-FIFTH

India's 1957-58 castor bean crop, harvested in January-April, is placed at 108,640 short tons from 1,325,000 acres, according to the final official estimate. The partially revised estimate for the 1956-57 crop is 138,880 tons from 1,415,000 acres.

The decrease in acreage reported by almost all the castor-growing states except Madras has been attributed to unfavorable weather at sowing time, some 6 months prior to harvest. In addition to the smaller acreage, inadequate rainfall reduced the crop.

#### IRAQ EXPECTS LITTLE CHANGE IN DOMESTIC FATS AND OILS OUTPUT IN 1958

Production of domestic vegetable oils and animal fats in Iraq in 1958 is not expected to change materially from 1957, when the output of vegetable oils was about 6,600 short tons and the animal fat outturn was around 16,550 tons (principally ghee and excluding butter); 1957 production was about the same as 1956 output.

Imports of vegetable and animal fats in 1957 totaled 7,310 tons, over 3 times the 2,255 tons imported in 1956. A large percentage of the imports is industrial oil used to make soap.

Since Iraq lacks storage facilities, consumption approximates domestic production and imports, or around 30,460 tons in 1957 and 25,405 tons in 1956.



## INDONESIAN REGISTERED COPRA EXPORTS DROP

Indonesian registered exports of copra in the first 3 months of 1958 are preliminarily estimated at 15,356 long tons, less than one-fourth the quantity shipped in the first quarter of 1957. However, it is noted that January 1-February 28 Malayan imports of copra from Indonesia totaled 34,608 long tons, half again as much as the 21,705 long tons imported during the first 2 months of 1957. Indications are that the bulk of the unrecorded shipments is moving from the Celebes and Molucca Islands of Indonesia.

Copra cake exports of 6,977 long tons in March were up about 10 percent from February. Shipments in the first quarter of this year were 27,138 tons, about 2 percent below those of January-March 1957.

Palm oil exports in March were 8,191 short tons, up one-half from those of February. January-March shipments totaled 23,610 tons, nearly 3 times the volume shipped in the comparable period of 1957. Palm kernel exports of 3,898 short tons in March were one-third below those of February. Cumulative January-March shipments totaled 11,689 tons, an increase of over one-fourth from exports in the first quarter of 1957.

## CUBA'S MILK PRODUCTION UP: IMPORTS OF DAIRY PRODUCTS DOWN IN 1957

Production of fluid milk in Cuba in 1957 has been estimated at 1,775 million pounds, an increase of about 4 percent over production in 1956. Increased production in 1957 was attributed mainly to favorable pasture conditions most of the year.

Factory production of dairy products in 1957 increased by about 14 percent over 1956. Most of the increase in manufactured products was attributable to a larger output of both condensed and evaporated milk.

Imports of dairy products in 1957 were down from the previous year, largely because of a reduction in imports of evaporated milk, which amounted to only 17.9 million pounds, compared with 22.4 million pounds in 1956. The United States continued to be Cuba's principal supplier of evaporated milk, butter, and dried milks. The Netherlands continued as a major supplier of imported cheese. The United Kingdom supplied 55 percent of total imports of condensed milk and displaced the Netherlands as a leading supplier of this product.

High prices are a formidable barrier to increasing per capita consumption of dairy products in Cuba. For example, in 1957, Grade A fresh milk retailed throughout the year in Havana for about 24 cents per quart. Butter retailed at an average price of about 86 cents per pound; condensed and evaporated milk, 18 to 20 cents per 14-1/2 ounce can; dry whole milk, \$1.00 to \$1.50 per pound; and dry skim milk, about 60 cents per pound.

## ECUADOR SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH CHILE FOR OATS

A recently signed trade agreement between Chile and Ecuador calls for Chilean shipments of oats to Ecuador. The quantity has not been announced, but Ecuador has been buying around 2,700 metric tons of Chilean oats annually.

## SWEDEN LOWERS BUTTER PRICE

In one of its last actions before dissolving, the Swedish Riksdag (Parliament) reduced the price of butter by the equivalent of 17.5 cents per pound. The proposed 4.4 cents-per-pound increase in the margarine price (see Foreign Crops and Markets, April 7) was not adopted.

The producer price of butter was reduced by 13.1 cents per pound by the government, and the additional 4.4-cent reduction will be financed from a government subsidy. The overall 17.5-cents-per-pound reduction will be passed on to wholesalers and consumers.

Equalization payments to milk producers (14.9 cents per cwt.) have been cancelled, and an excise tax of 17.5 cents per cwt. of milk will be introduced. This means the producer price of milk will be reduced by 32.4 cents per cwt., or 10 percent, from its former level.

The Riksdag also enacted legislation to control low-priced Danish butter from entering Sweden through "shoppers' tours" (see Foreign Crops and Markets, April 14). A returning tourist can now bring only 11 pounds of edible fats into Sweden, duty free, with a maximum limit of 5.5 pounds of butter.

## BUTTERFAT PRODUCTION IN NEW ZEALAND SETS A RECORD

Butterfat processed by dairy plants in New Zealand during March 1958 was a record 43.3 million pounds, 22.1 percent above comparable 1957. Pasture growth was unusually good and dairy stock were in excellent condition. In the 9 months ending March 31, 440 million pounds of butterfat were processed. This was also a record, and 6.6 percent above last season.

Butter production in March, at 42.2 million pounds, was up 7.5 million pounds over a year ago, while cheese totaled 19.1 million pounds -- 1.2 million pounds above March 1957. For the first 9 months of the 1957-58 season, New Zealand's output of butter amounted to 438.6 million pounds, 7.8 percent ahead of last year. Cheese production at 194.5 million pounds was up 2.5 percent.

Latest reports indicate continued heavy output this season.

#### AUSTRALIAN APPLE AND PEAR EXPORTS EXPECTED TO BE NEAR RECORD

Bumper crops of apples have been harvested in all Australian producing areas except the State of Western Australia. In Tasmania, the major apple-producing state, the crop has sized extremely well and, as a result, exceeded early production estimates.

Original contracts for export shipping space were based on the early estimates; consequently, space was inadequate for the additional quantities now available. With government assistance, much space has now been found, and exports will probably be much larger than expected earlier.

Pear shipments are also expected to approach the 1955 record of 1.5 million boxes. Current estimates of total Australian exports of pears this year are 1,402,000 boxes (1,072,000 to the United Kingdom), compared with 1957 exports of 1,020,000 boxes (793,000 to the United Kingdom). Apple exports for 1958 are estimated at 5,646,000 boxes (3,783,000 to the United Kingdom), compared with 1957 exports of 3,970,000 boxes (2,518,000 to the United Kingdom).

#### AUSTRIAN VEGETABLE OIL CONSUMPTION CONTINUES TO RISE

Austrian consumption of vegetable oils continues to rise rapidly, and as oilseed imports and domestic oilseed production are minor--around 7,150 short tons and 5,200 tons in 1957, respectively--imports of oil have increased proportionately. An estimated 40 percent of 1958 oil imports will be crude soybean oil and hydrogenated coconut oil. Imports from the United States--free of quantitative and currency restrictions since 1956--should account for a fair share of total oil purchases.

Consumption of edible vegetable oils in Austria during 1958 is forecast at 64,500 short tons. This would be an increase of 5 percent from 1957, 16 percent from 1956, and almost 30 percent from 1955. Increased edible oil consumption in 1957 resulted in part from higher producer prices for milk, which encouraged milk sales and curtailed home use of other dairy products. To maintain the customary fat level of their diet, many farmers used margarine and vegetable cooking fats to offset the reduced intake of butterfat.

The increase in edible oil consumption is about equal to the decrease in imports of lard. Thus, although pronounced changes have taken place in composition of the fat diet, per capita consumption of all fats and oils has changed very little. The increase in use of edible oils expected in 1958 may further reduce demand for lard.

Austria is also using more vegetable oils for industrial purposes. An estimated 23,150 tons will be used in 1958, 1,940 tons more than in 1957 and 3,685 tons above 1956. Much of this increase is due to the greater use of soap in Austria.



# BELGIAN CONGO'S EXPORTS OF PALM AND PALM KERNEL OILS MAY BE LARGER IN 1958

Record exportable supplies of palm oil from the Belgian Congo are expected this year as a result of increased production (See Foreign Crops and Markets, April 5, 1958). However, during the first quarter of 1958 sales were reportedly slow, despite relatively low prices in Europe, and stocks were becoming heavy. Europe is the principal market for Congo palm oil, taking 85 percent of the record total in 1957.

Palm kernel oil available for export in 1958 is forecast at 10 percent above the alltime high in exports during 1957. The United States was the largest single market for palm kernel oil in 1957, taking nearly 40 percent of the total. Collectively, European Common Market countries took nearly 55 percent of the 1957 palm kernel oil exports.

Palm kernel exports probably will about equal those of 1957 although production is forecast higher. The government encourages exports of palm kernel oil in preference to palm kernels by placing a 12-percent export tax on palm kernels and allowing palm kernel oil to be shipped duty-free.

## OILS AND OIL-BEARING MATERIALS: Belgian Congo, exports, 1956 and 1957

Vegetable oils	1956	1957 <u>1/</u>	Oil-bearing materials	1956	1957 <u>1/</u>
	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000
	short	short		short	short
PALM	tons	tons	PALM	tons	tons
Palm oil.....	166.6	168.7	Palm kernels.....	38.8	33.5
Palm kernel oil.....	48.7	60.0			
Total palm.....	215.3	228.7	Castor beans.....	1.2	1.8
EDIBLE			OILCAKE		
			Peanut.....	9.9	9.4
Peanut oil.....	8.2	6.7	Cottonseed.....	26.9	27.3
Cottonseed oil.....	7.3	6.4	Palm kernel.....	51.7	59.2
Total edible.....	15.5	13.1	Total.....	88.5	95.9

1/ Preliminary.

Compiled from official sources.

Except for about 10 percent of the palm oil, practically all the vegetable oil exported in 1957 went out as crude oil. The government encourages the export of refined palm oil by placing an export tax of 7 percent on crude palm oil and exempting bleached palm oil from this duty.



# WEST GERMAN-SOVIET TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED FOR FEED GRAINS

The trade agreement signed between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Soviet Union on April 25, 1958, provides for shipments of 150,000 metric tons of Russian feed grains to West Germany during 1958. It is believed that the bulk of these shipments will be corn. New negotiations are to be made for the quantities to be shipped to west Germany during 1959 and 1960.

## CANADA INCREASES CORN PRODUCTION

Canada's 1957 production of shelled corn is estimated at 29.6 million bushels, second only to the 1955 crop of 31.5 million. Corn production has been increasing sharply in Canada, and the 1957 crop was 59 percent above the average of the 10 years ending 1956. Increased use of higher-yielding hybrid varieties and some expansion in acreage account for the larger production during the past 3 years.

Corn production in Canada is concentrated in Ontario, that province accounting for 99 percent of the total in 1957. The only other province reporting shelled corn production is Manitoba.

Canada's corn consumption in 1956 (the latest year available) is estimated at 34.5 million bushels. About 21 million bushels were used commercially, leaving about 13.5 million for feeding on farms. Imports during that year were 8.4 million bushels.

## SAO PAULO SUGAR PRODUCERS PLANNING EXPORTS

Production of sugar in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil, is exceeding production quotas for domestic use by a substantial margin. A number of the major sugar producers are reported to be forming a company to export sugar produced in excess of the quotas set by the government regulating agency, the Sugar and Alcohol Institute (AAI).

The Sao Paulo 1957-58 production quota of 8 million bags was exceeded by about 10 million bags. Producers estimate that the 1958-59 quota of 15 million bags will be exceeded by about 7 million bags.

Although there apparently is no law empowering the AAI to monopolize the sugar export trade, the institute has to date arranged all export transactions. The sugar producers feel that they have the right to form their own export company, and have submitted their proposal for approval to the AAI and the Foreign Trade Division of the Bank of Brazil.

#### MOROCCO HAS EXPORTABLE SURPLUS OF DURUM AND BARLEY

The grain harvest now under way in Morocco is considerably larger than the poor 1957 crop, and supplies of both durum wheat and barley will be available for export from the 1958 production. The area seeded to these grains was much larger than in 1957, especially the barley acreage. Yields are also much larger than yields last year.

Production of durum is forecast at 24 million bushels, compared with about 16 million in 1957. The estimated increase of 50 percent over last year's production is attributed to much higher yields and a 10-percent increase in acreage. Exportable surplus of durum is tentatively set at about 4 million bushels for the 1958-59 season.

Soft wheat production this year is forecast at about 11.5 million bushels, compared with 7.5 million last year. Though well above the small 1957 crop, this is still below average. No imports are expected to be needed this year, in contrast with commercial imports during the first 3 quarters of 1957-58 of about 750,000 bushels from Italy and about 1,450,000 bushels from the United States under Title II of Public Law 480.

Barley production shows the greatest increase of any of the grains over the small 1957 outturn. The current forecast of 55.5 million bushels is more than double the 21.5 million bushels harvested last year, but is still below average. Acreage and yields are sharply above 1957 figures but not up to average. Exportable surplus from this year's crop is expected to be about 14 million bushels.

Quality of 1958 grain is reported to be good. The government has not yet announced any price support plans for the 1958 crop.

#### U. S. WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTS UP SLIGHTLY IN APRIL

U. S. wheat and flour exports during April 1958 are estimated at about 38 million bushels. This is more than exports in any other single month in the first 9 months (July-March) of 1957-58. Indications are that May and June exports also will exceed the monthly average of 32 million bushels over this 9-month period.

The total of 290 million bushels exported during July-March 1957-58 is about 26 percent below the 397 million exported in the same period of 1956-57. Wheat exports to India and Poland, and shipments of both wheat and flour to Brazil, increased significantly this fiscal year, but they failed to offset declining exports of wheat/flour to West Germany, Belgium-Luxembourg, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Greece, Yugoslavia, and Turkey. Japan and Korea also took less this year.

WHEAT AND FLOUR: United States exports by countries of destination,  
July-March 1956-57 and July-March 1957-58

Destination	July-March 1956-57			July-March 1957-58		
	Wheat	Flour <u>1/</u>	Total	Wheat	Flour <u>1/</u>	Total
	----- 1,000 bushels, grain equivalent -----					
Western Hemisphere:						
Central America .....	1,087	3,232	4,319	1,088	3,403	4,491
Cuba .....	2,715	3,133	5,848	2,361	3,443	5,804
British West Indies .....	2	2,639	2,641	1	2,577	2,578
Haiti .....	-	1,037	1,037	156	1,162	1,318
Colombia .....	2,394	48	2,442	3,338	486	3,824
Venezuela .....	260	4,701	4,961	522	4,864	5,386
Peru .....	3,219	211	3,430	2,771	230	3,001
Bolivia .....	2,711	993	3,704	-	372	372
Chile .....	4,883	32	4,915	1,968	75	2,043
Brazil .....	4,556	1	4,557	8,571	2,081	10,652
Others .....	1,223	2,131	3,354	486	1,816	2,302
Total .....	23,050	18,158	41,208	21,262	20,509	41,771
Europe:						
Norway .....	1,734	704	2,438	231	683	914
Denmark .....	3,446	34	3,480	1,285	9	1,294
United Kingdom .....	29,381	1,155	30,536	16,518	730	17,248
Netherlands .....	15,781	2,650	18,431	3,115	2,840	5,955
Belgium-Luxembourg .....	16,707	19	16,726	1,775	43	1,818
France .....	31,051	5	31,056	-	11	11
Germany, West .....	31,006	83	31,089	14,174	37	14,211
Austria .....	1,866	3	1,869	1,117	-	1,117
Switzerland .....	8,274	6	8,280	474	2/	474
Finland .....	2,813	-	2,813	681	-	681
Poland .....	-	-	-	18,479	-	18,479
Portugal .....	5,206	90	5,296	288	70	358
Italy .....	6,726	625	7,351	742	804	1,546
Yugoslavia .....	17,331	17	17,348	5,664	27	5,691
Greece .....	14,993	21	15,014	2,103	2	2,105
Others .....	2,080	62	2,142	2,096	376	2,472
Total .....	188,395	5,474	193,869	68,742	5,632	74,374
Asia:						
Turkey .....	12,016	-	12,016	3,802	-	3,802
Lebanon .....	-	2,005	2,005	-	1,250	1,250
Israel .....	7,359	521	7,880	7,211	7	7,218
Saudi Arabia .....	974	2,960	3,934	13	1,276	1,289
India .....	32,734	22	32,756	66,034	22	66,056
Pakistan .....	19,724	2	19,726	17,657	1	17,658
Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia :	-	2,683	2,683	-	688	688
Indonesia .....	-	3,981	3,981	-	99	99
Philippine Republic .....	-	4,938	4,938	-	6,222	6,222
Korea .....	9,801	701	10,502	6,554	837	7,391
Formosa .....	4,664	-	4,664	5,775	5	5,780
Japan .....	34,682	1,601	36,283	32,041	1,602	33,643
Others .....	1,935	836	2,771	2,071	1,733	3,804
Total .....	123,889	20,250	144,139	141,158	13,742	154,900
Africa:						
Morocco .....	-	23	23	1,448	8	1,456
Tunisia .....	2,820	2	2,822	151	168	319
Egypt .....	1,071	358	1,429	-	343	343
French West Africa .....	2,117	6	2,123	458	1	459
Ghana .....	-	1,229	1,229	-	1,211	1,211
Western British Africa .....	-	1,573	1,573	-	1,560	1,560
Others .....	1,709	1,461	3,170	299	1,115	1,414
Total .....	7,717	4,652	12,369	2,356	4,406	6,762
Oceania .....	-	33	33	-	26	26
Unspecified 3/ .....	1,118	4,745	5,863	434	11,938	12,372
World total .....	344,169	53,312	397,481	233,952	56,253	290,205

1/ Wholly of U.S. wheat. Beginning July 1, 1957, the factor for converting 100 pounds of flour into bushels of grain equivalent changed from 2.33 to 2.3. 2/ Less than 500 bushels. 3/ Includes shipments for relief or charity which are not shown by destination.



#### GRAIN CROP CONDITION SATISFACTORY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Winter wheat in England and Wales was in generally satisfactory condition on May 1. According to an official report issued early this month, winter wheat has recovered from the effects of the cold weather, though growth has been retarded to some extent. Condition of rye and mixed grains was also generally satisfactory.

Spring wheat has germinated fairly well, but growth is slow. Spring-sown barley and oats have germinated slowly, but where coming through the ground were in satisfactory condition, at latest report.

#### COLD WEATHER DAMAGE TO JAPANESE CROPS GREATER THAN ESTIMATED EARLIER

The Japanese Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry reports that crop damage from unseasonal cold weather in late March is more extensive than estimated earlier (Foreign Crops and Markets, May 12). Damage is now estimated at \$87 million, nearly 50 percent higher than previously reported, and probably the greatest in Japan's history.

Winter grain losses are estimated at 19 percent for wheat, 25 percent for common barley, and 10 percent for naked barley--or a total of 638,000 metric tons. Damage to rapeseed and fruit crops was also severe, with losses estimated at 18 percent and 21 percent, respectively.

It now seems probably that imports of wheat, barley, and oilseeds will have to be increased over present plans. However, the government is expected to postpone revision of import requirements until this year's rice and soybean crops can be predicted.

#### U.S. RICE EXPORTS LARGER IN MARCH

Rice exports from the United States in March totaled 1,503,000 bags (100 pounds) in terms of milled rice, an increase over the 1,109,000 bags exported in February. Exports in March 1957 were 3,458,000 bags. The principal countries of destination were Pakistan, Peru, and Cuba.

While exports in the August-March period of the current marketing year (August-July) of 8,364,000 bags were well below the 20,490,000 bags exported in the same months of the year before, they were more than the 7,473,000 bags exported in the like period of two years earlier. Cuba and Pakistan were the principal countries of destination during the period.



RICE: United States exports, in terms of milled, to specified countries, March 1958,  
with comparisons 1/

Country of destination	August-July		August-March		March 2/	
	1955-56:	1956-57:	1955-56:	1956-57:	1957-58:	1957 : 1958
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags	bags
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada .....	397	375	320	268	229	47 : 16
British Honduras .....	35	33	29	13	6	5 : 0
British West Indies .....	8	137	7	86	98	2 : 1
El Salvador .....	44	1	2	2/	0	3/ : 0
Cuba .....	2,927	4,054	2,422	2,939	2,997	318 : 209
Guatemala .....	30	29	2	16	45	0 : 18
Haiti .....	5	58	3	55	5	3/ : 3
Netherlands Antilles .....	28	42	20	26	34	3 : 3
Bolivia .....	191	176	153	176	44	0 : 22
Colombia .....	13	3	10	1	3/	0 : 0
Peru .....	0	3/	0	2/	330	0 : 329
Surinam .....	0	20	0	20	22	0 : 0
Venezuela .....	32	40	32	35	2/	18 : 2
Other countries .....	116	50	68	37	8	2 : 3
Total .....	3,828	5,019	3,068	3,672	3,818	395 : 706
Europe:						
Belgium-Luxembourg .....	285	686	153	553	52	57 : 2/
France .....	78	1	3/	1	0	3/ : 0
West Germany .....	53	20	27	5	0	4 : 0
Netherlands .....	31	50	5	50	3	3/ : 0
Sweden .....	9	16	9	16	10	3 : 2
Switzerland .....	22	58	19	58	30	2 : 0
Other countries .....	10	39	4	29	16	1 : 4
Total .....	488	870	217	712	111	67 : 6
Asia:						
India .....	215	4,376	215	4,047	0	1,746 : 0
Indochina .....	220	10	220	10	2/	0 : 0
Indonesia .....	516	5,424	0	4,872	0	0 : 0
Japan .....	2,383	109	2,382	93	4	1 : 2/
Korean Republic .....	1	2,746	0	989	242	899 : 0
Pakistan .....	2,653	4,372	662	3,364	2,757	143 : 752
Philippine Republic .....	28	20	22	20	377	0 : 0
Ryukyu Islands .....	0	207	0	201	0	0 : 0
Saudi Arabia .....	75	98	63	86	88	8 : 1
Other Arabian States .....	0	22	0	17	109	0 : 2
Turkey .....	3	218	0	218	0	0 : 0
Other countries .....	35	8	18	4	2	1 : 1
Total .....	6,129	17,610	3,582	13,921	3,579	2,798 : 756
Total Oceania .....	39	47	24	29	34	3/ : 3
French West Africa .....	625	0	416	0	0	0 : 0
Liberia .....	276	248	134	157	226	65 : 30
Other Africa .....	21	19	15	14	10	5 : 0
Destination not specified .....	26	13	17	8	13	1 : 1
Total .....	11,432	23,826	7,473	18,513	7,791	3,331 : 1,502
Section 416 donations .....	967	2,036	0	1,977	573	127 : 1
Ground rough rice for animal feed:	514	288	-	-	0	0 : 0
World total .....	12,913	26,150	7,473	20,490	8,364	3,458 : 1,503

1/ Includes brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 cwt. 4/ Programmed by ICA and shipped by the Army.

Source: Bureau of the Census and Department of Agriculture.

## YUGOSLAVIA PUTS EXPORT EMBARGO ON BEANS

Dry beans in Yugoslavia will continue under export embargo until the government considers that the supply and price situation warrants a change. The 1957 crop, estimated at 4 million bags, was the second largest in history--7 percent larger than the 3.7 million bags produced in 1956 but 20 percent less than the alltime record of 5 million bags in 1955.

Notwithstanding the large 1957 crop, prices rose enough after a few beans were exported last fall to cause an export embargo to be declared. Retail prices in March 1958 were 11 percent higher than in March 1956 in the city of Titograd, 25 percent higher in Zagret and 67 percent higher in Sarajave. Even after these increases the prices were not especially high as compared with some Western prices. In all 3 cities named the March 1958 price was 100 dinars per Kg. (about 15 U.S. cents per pound).

Even if the embargo is lifted, Yugoslav 1958 bean exports are expected to be insignificant.

## EUROPEAN FREE TRADE AREA TO STUDY LINKS WITH CITRUS-PRODUCING COUNTRIES

A subcommittee of the Organization European Economic Cooperation will study the possibility of permanent links between Israel and the European Free Trade Area. Later, connections with Spain will be investigated. Israel and Spain have been historically tied to European markets, chiefly through citrus exports. A recent report to OEEC indicated possible conflict of interests between these countries and other citrus-producing areas with which the Free Trade Area is already linked. The subcommittee hopes to solve this problem.

## U. S. MEAT EXPORTS DROP SHARPLY

U. S. exports of meat and meat products dropped sharply during the first quarter of 1958 from the same period in 1957. The reduction of 61 percent was due primarily to a drop of 42 million pounds in beef exports. Comparison of the two periods is somewhat misleading, however, due to large shipments of frozen beef (48 million pounds) to Spain and Israel under Public Law 480.

Pork exports also dropped. The sharpest drop was in exports of "other pork, pickled, salted or otherwise cured," which went from 14 million pounds in the first quarter of 1957 to about 2 million pounds the same quarter of 1958. Exports to the Netherlands--unusually high during January and February 1957--fell sharply during March 1957 and have remained low since.

Variety meat exports, which were broken down by types for the first time during 1958, dropped sharply from 1957 levels. Most of this drop was in exports to the Netherlands and West Germany.

MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS; U. S. exports, product weight,  
January-March, 1955-58

Type	1955	1956	1957	1958
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
Beef and veal:				
Fresh or frozen.....	12,001	18,529	44,483	1,766
Canned.....	1,041	1,612	1,158	512
Pickled or cured.....	3,763	3,356	3,385	4,110
Total beef and veal.....	16,805	23,497	49,026	6,388
Pork:				
Fresh or frozen.....	1,959	1,733	1,333	1,366
Hams and shoulders, cured or cooked.....	3,328	4,783	3,824	4,340
Bacon <u>1/</u> .....	1,064	<u>2/</u>	662	4,162
Other pork, pickled, salted or otherwise cured.....	10,176	<u>2/</u>	13,995	2,226
Hams and shoulders, canned.....	257	<u>2/</u>	2,583	208
Other pork, canned.....	778	<u>2/</u>	2,368	1,112
Total pork.....	17,562	22,155	24,765	13,414
Lamb and mutton, except canned.....	92	<u>2/</u>	288	290
Sausage, bologna, and frankfurters:				
Except canned.....	398	<u>2/</u>	604	570
Canned.....	1,078	1,567	2,022	1,030
Total sausage.....	1,476	<u>2/</u>	2,626	1,600
Meat and meat products, canned, n.e.c.....	538	<u>2/</u>	1,519	1,563
Baby food, canned.....	142	143	219	285
Total meat exports.....	36,615	48,167	78,443	23,540
Horsemeat (all kinds).....	3,699	2,539	1,937	1,633
Variety meats, except canned:				
Beef and pork livers.....	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	8,890
Beef tongues.....	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	5,354
Variety meats, n.e.c.....	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	2,380
Total variety meats.....	13,016	26,440	26,498	16,624
Total meat and meat products.....	53,330	77,146	106,878	41,797

1/ Includes Cumberland and Wiltshire sides. 2/ Not available.

Source: U. S. Bureau of the Census



## IRELAND BECOMES WHEAT EXPORTER

Ireland's postwar record 1957 wheat crop of 502,000 long tons (18,741,000 bushels) has made that country a wheat exporter for the first time since 1941. Ten thousand tons (373,000 bushels) were recently exported to the United Kingdom at prices ranging from £18 10s. to £19 per ton (\$1.39 to \$1.43 per bushel). Grain importing and exporting is done by Grain Importers (Eire) Ltd., the government grain agency. The 1957 average wheat yield of 25.3 cwt. (47.2 bushels) per acre set a record.

The Irish Government has been attempting to limit the wheat area to that required to produce 300,000 tons (11,200,000 bushels) of millable wheat annually. It considers this quantity of domestic (soft) wheat to be the maximum that can be used for baking bread of good quality, and for seed. Three hundred thousand tons is about 75 to 80 percent of Ireland's total annual needs of millable wheat. The balance (hard wheat) is to be imported.

The farmers sell their grain to licensed private buyers. Flour mills have taken 370,000 tons (13,813,000 bushels) of 1957-crop wheat. With a carryover of 75,000 tons (2,800,000 bushels) from 1956-57, private buyers' 1957-58 supplies of domestic wheat amount to 445,000 tons (16,613,000 bushels). This exceeds the goal of 300,000 tons by 145,000 tons (5,413,000 bushels.)

However, a reduction in the flour extraction rate from 80 to 72 percent, effective February 3, 1958, increased millers' 1957-58 domestic wheat needs by 23,000 tons (859,000 bushels). Deducting this amount, and the planned August 1, 1958 carryover of 50,000 tons (1,867,000 bushels) from 145,000 tons leaves 72,000 tons (2,687,000 bushels) for export, or for sale in Ireland as feed. It is unknown what the 132,000 tons (4,928,000 bushels) of 1957-crop wheat still in farmers' hands will be used for other than feed or seed.

The government fixes the prices which grain dealers and wheat processors must pay farmers for wheat. These are not minimum prices. Higher or lower prices cannot be paid. For the 1957-58 season, producer prices were specified for 11 grades of wheat for each of 3 periods into which the season was divided. The prices rise from each period to the next to encourage orderly marketing. Each price is also subject to premiums and deductions for quality variations from prescribed standards.

The farmers received an average of £28 16s. per ton (\$2.16 per bushel) for 1957 crop wheat. Drying, transportation, storage, commissions, and other charges brought the average cost to flour mills to about £38 per ton (\$2.85 per bushel). However, the prices for which mills, grain dealers and Grain Importers, Ltd. can sell wheat on the domestic market as feed or for export are much below this level. The government will pay the difference this year.

For 1958-59, Ireland's producer prices for wheat will be the same as for the current season if the crop does not exceed 300,000 tons (11,200,000 bushels) of dried millable wheat. If the crop does exceed this amount, the producer prices will be reduced by a prescribed method to reflect the relatively low prices at which any excess above 300,000 tons will have to be sold as feed or exported.

#### MALAYAN EXPORTS OF PALM OIL AND PALM KERNELS AT RECORD HIGH IN 1957

Malayan exports of palm oil and palm kernels reached a new high in 1957. Palm oil shipments of 67,504 short tons were 3 percent higher than 1956 exports and over 40 percent above the 1935-39 prewar average. Palm kernel exports of 18,192 tons were nearly one-fifth above those of 1956 and more than twice the average volume prewar.

PALM OIL AND PALM KERNELS: Malaya, exports by country of destination, average 1935-39, annual 1956 and 1957

Country	Palm oil			Palm kernels		
	Average	1956	1957 1/	Average	1956	1957 1/
	1935-39			1935-39		
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Canada.....	9,598	12,636	11,274	---	---	---
Denmark.....	---	---	---	226	3,489	728
France.....	---	---	---	---	---	571
Germany, West.....	---	---	---	1,410	773	56
Greece.....	---	---	---	---	476	1,032
Ireland.....	---	---	---	---	224	---
Italy.....	---	---	194	134	28	---
Netherlands.....	---	---	---	1,304	9,743	3,960
United Kingdom.....	23,270	34,167	32,387	2,115	717	2,078
India.....	908	18,540	23,034	---	28	---
Japan.....	922	---	---	46	---	9,767
Other.....	12,662	271	615	2,897	---	---
Total.....	47,360	65,614	67,504	8,132	15,478	18,192

1/ Preliminary.

Compiled from official sources.

Palm oil production in 1957 is estimated at 65,530 short tons, an increase of 5 percent from the previous year. Future production is expected to increase slightly each year as more of the higher-yielding variety of oil palms mature.

## JAPAN TO INCREASE RICE IMPORTS

Tentative plans of Japanese agricultural imports in fiscal year 1958-59 (April 1-March 31) include around 930,000 metric tons of rice. The amount is nearly double the rice imports of 1957-58. Countries of origin have not been announced.

The plan for the first half of the year has been approved officially, but estimates for the second half are unofficial. Amounts for that period will be determined definitely when 1958 crop conditions are known. Final revision will be made in September.

RICE: Japan, revised import plan for Japanese fiscal year 1958 and actual purchases in fiscal year 1957 (April 1-March 31)

Type	Fiscal year 1957			Fiscal year 1958		
	April 1- Sept. 30	Oct. 1- March 31	Total	April 1- Sept. 30	Oct. 1 March 31	1/- Total
	----- 1,000 metric tons -----					
Short grain.....	50	360	410	70	360	430
Long grain.....	31	51	82	38	410	448
Brokens.....	0	0	0	22	30	52
Rice.....	3	0	3	2	0	2
Total.....	84	411	495	132	800	932

1/ Tentative plan.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Purchases in the first quarter of 1958 were: January--short-grain rice from Taiwan, 50,000 metric tons, 15 percent broken, at \$147.30 per ton, freight, \$5.00, total cost \$152.30 per ton; long-grain rice from Burma, 50,800 tons, 15 percent broken, at \$115.48 per ton, freight \$8.00, total cost \$123.48. There was no purchase of foreign rice in February. March--short-grain rice from Taiwan, 50,000 metric tons, 15 percent broken, at \$147.30 per ton, freight \$4.70, total cost \$152.00; and short-grain rice from Communist China, 30,000 tons, 15 percent broken, at \$142.80 per ton, freight \$5.20, total cost \$148.00 per ton.

Orders were placed on April 17 for 45,000 tons of long-grain milled Thai rice under the 1958 Japan-Thailand trade agreement. Prices f.o.b. were \$139.55 per metric ton for non-glutinous rice, \$105.38 per ton for glutinous rice, and \$104.28 per ton for A-1 Super grade broken rice. Freight charges from Thailand to Japan are about \$5.60 per ton. Shipment of the non-glutinous rice will be between April 17 and July 9. The glutinous rice will be shipped between April 17 and August 4, and brokens between April 17 and July 9.



FRANCE IMPORTS LESS  
COTTON, CONSUMES MORE

Imports of cotton into France during August-March 1957-58 were 654,000 bales, a drop of 65 percent from the 1,008,000 bales imported in the comparable period a year earlier. The sharp decline in imports resulted from the tight government restrictions placed on cotton imports in an effort to conserve foreign exchange.

The sharpest decrease occurred in imports from the United States, which amounted to only 113,000 bales in the period under review, compared with 263,000 bales in August-March 1956-57. Imports were also smaller from most other major supplying countries, with the exceptions of Uganda, Egypt, Sudan, and Syria.

Quantities imported from principal sources during August-March 1957-58, with comparable 1956-57 figures in parentheses, were: French Colonies 129,000 bales (131,000); United States 113,000 (263,000); Syria 85,000 (79,000); Egypt 54,000 (34,000); Uganda 50,000 (657); Iran 34,000 (49,000); Sudan 27,000 (15,000); Greece 26,000 (99,000); Mexico 24,000 (87,000); Pakistan 24,000 (50,000); Peru 20,000 (28,000); Belgian Congo 17,000 (46,000); Brazil 13,000 (25,000); and the U.S.S.R. 10,000 (20,000).

Cotton consumption in France during August-February 1957-58 rose to a record level of 822,000 bales, up about 3 percent from the 802,000 bales used in the corresponding months of 1956-57. Because of the tighter import restrictions, use of United States cotton declined to 190,000 bales, or 23 percent of total consumption, compared with 217,000 bales, or 27 percent of the total in August-February a year earlier. Among the other growths, decreases occurred in the use of those from Brazil, Greece, Egypt, Sudan, Syria, Belgian Congo, and the U.S.S.R. Sharp increases occurred in the use of British African and Central American cotton and to a lesser extent in Pakistani, Turkish, Peruvian, and Iranian.

Production of pure cotton yarn in December was 23,989 metric tons -- 12 percent more than the 21,320 metric tons produced in December 1956. Output of pure cotton fabrics increased 15 percent, amounting to 17,770 metric tons, against 15,472 metric tons in December 1956. There were more people employed, and more spindles and looms in operation longer hours than in December 1956. Although the volume of orders on hand is lower than a year ago, it is still considered to be at a healthy level.

As a result of lower cotton imports and a high rate of consumption, cotton stocks in France have declined steadily since August 1, 1957. On February 28, 1958, stocks were estimated at 259,000 bales, or less than half the 560,000 bales held on August 1, 1957.

## 2-France

Approximately 245,000 bales of U.S. cotton are expected to be imported into France during the last 3 months (May-July) of the 1957-58 season. About 136,000 bales of this cotton will be purchased for French currency under terms of a Public Law 480 agreement signed on February 28, 1958. In accordance with the agreement, an additional 74,000 bales will be purchased in the normal course of trade for payment in dollars. Also, about 35,000 bales will be imported under ICA authorizations. The arrival of this cotton should enable French spinners to temporarily rebuild their extremely low stocks.

Prices for all growths of raw cotton in France, except French African, increased about 20 percent in early November when the new exchange rate of 420 francs per U. S. dollar was applied to cotton imports. Since January, however, prices generally have declined, and on May 5, 1958, prices for most growths were from 1 to 5 percent below the November level. Prices for French African cotton have increased gradually for the past several months because it is freely available for French francs.

U. S. COTTON EXPORTS  
INCREASE IN MARCH

U.S. exports of cotton (all types) in March 1958 were 500,000 bales of 500 pounds gross (480,000 running bales). This was an increase of 7 percent from exports of 469,000 bales in February. Exports in March 1957 totaled 822,000 bales.

Cotton exports during August-March 1957-58 were 3,938,000 bales (3,779,000 running bales), about 30 percent below exports of 5,602,000 bales in the corresponding period of 1956-57.

Sales under the 1957-58 cotton export program of the Commodity Credit Corporation, for export between August 16, 1957, and July 31, 1958, totaled 5,705,611 running bales as of May 12, 1958. In addition, nearly 200,000 bales that were sold under the 1956-57 program were exported from August 1 through August 15, 1957. The average selling price, basis Middling 1-inch at average location, was 28.63 cents per pound for the May 12 sale, compared with 28.44 cents for the sale on April 29. Exports for the 1957-58 season (August-July) are now expected to reach at least 5,600,000 running bales, about 2,000,000 bales below 1956-57 exports of 7,600,000 bales.

A total of 110,183 bales were sold on May 12 for export on or after August 1, 1958, under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 1958-59 cotton export sales program. The average selling price, basis Middling 1-inch at average location, was 28.61 cents per pound. The Department's 1958-59 sales program will be supplemented by a "payment in kind" program.

COTTON: United States exports by country of destination, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1955 and 1956, August-March 1956-57 and 1957-58

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1				August-March	
	Average		1955	1956	1956-57	1957-58
	1935-39:	1945-49:				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales
Austria.....	0	1/ 36	18	54	36	38
Belgium.....	169	131	30	337	254	149
Denmark.....	33	14	3	25	19	23
Finland.....	35	21	16	33	28	13
France.....	662	575	178	433	286	119
Germany, West.....	511	340	74	1,061	776	499
Italy.....	442	489	105	720	500	396
Netherlands.....	107	131	17	260	218	80
Norway.....	17	7	2/	21	16	11
Poland and Danzig.....	180	69	1	27	0	184
Portugal.....	36	2/	5	91	70	17
Spain.....	108	69	143	174	162	90
Sweden.....	115	12	10	111	83	94
Switzerland.....	11	26	14	121	104	69
United Kingdom.....	1,346	488	153	1,050	747	513
Yugoslavia.....	17	47	109	141	37	13
Other Europe.....	3/ 96	4/ 90	5	38	16	15
Total Europe.....	3,885	2,545	881	4,697	3,352	2,323
Canada.....	301	275	75	380	268	172
Cuba.....	11	16	11	31	22	34
Israel.....	5/	5	15	19	6	6
Hong Kong.....	5/	35	45	95	62	91
India.....	52	86	9	301	269	98
Indonesia.....	5/	5	15	43	32	21
Korea, Rep. of.....	5/	6/ 48	135	220	145	116
Japan.....	1,142	585	873	1,588	1,095	791
Philippines, Rep. of..	2	4	12	36	27	34
Taiwan (Formosa).....	5/	1	124	161	107	57
Bolivia.....	4	2	13	11	2	0
Chile.....	9	20	14	74	53	33
Colombia.....	20	24	27	52	32	46
Morocco.....	5/	3	6	15	10	10
Australia.....	9	7	28	81	53	45
Other countries.....	7/ 154	8/ 404	37	9/ 109	67	61
Total 500-lb. bales:	5,589	4,065	2,320	7,913	5,602	3,938
Total running bales:	5,300	3,917	2,215	7,593	5,388	3,779

1/ 4-year average. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Includes Czechoslovakia 65.  
 4/ Includes Czechoslovakia 57 and Greece 21. 5/ If any, included in other countries. 6/ 3-year average. 7/ Includes China 117, and French Indochina 22. 8/ Includes China 401. 9/ Includes Pakistan 28, Union of South Africa 31, and Uruguay 15.



#### U. S. EXPORTS OF AMERICAN- EGYPTIAN DECLINE IN MARCH

United States exports of American Egyptian (extra long staple) cotton were 715 bales (500 pounds gross) in March 1958, compared with 1,483 bales in February, and 3,201 bales in March 1957. Austria received 709 bales of the March exports, the remainder going to the Netherlands.

Exports during August-March 1957-58 were 9,814 bales, compared with 51,050 bales in the same period of 1956-57. Most of the August-March exports went to the United Kingdom, France, and Austria with smaller quantities going to Yugoslavia, West Germany, and Italy.

#### U. S. COTTON LINTERS EXPORTS AT SAME LEVEL IN MARCH

U.S. exports of cotton linters, mostly chemical qualities, were 16,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in March 1958, the same as February exports, but only about half the 31,000 bales exported in March 1957. Exports during August-March 1957-58 were 171,000 bales, compared with 300,000 bales in August-March 1956-57.

Principal destinations of linters exports in August-March 1957-58, with comparable 1956-57 figures in parentheses, were: West Germany 62,000 bales (101,000); United Kingdom 35,000 (45,000); Netherlands 30,000 (47,000); Canada 19,000 (25,000); Japan 12,000 (45,000); and France 11,000 (22,000).

#### BRAZIL'S COTTON EXPORTS CONTINUE DOWNTREND

Cotton exports from Brazil during August-March 1957-58 were 115,000 bales (500 pounds gross). This is a decline of 44 percent from the 206,000 bales exported during the same months in 1956-57, and 72 percent below exports of 410,000 bales in August-March 1955-56.

The decline in exports in recent years is attributed principally to the fact that Brazilian prices have been above the world level, except under special bilateral agreements. The reason for Brazil's high cotton prices is the reduced supply of cotton in that country and high minimum export prices to protect the local textile industry.

Exports were down for all principal destinations in the period under review with the exceptions of Spain, Uruguay, and Sweden. Quantities exported to major destinations during August-March 1957-58, with comparable figures for 1956-57 in parentheses, were: Japan 62,000 bales (72,000); Spain 12,000 (0); West Germany 10,000 (12,000); United Kingdom 6,000 (22,000); France 6,000 (17,000); Uruguay 6,000 (3,000); Hong Kong 5,000 (20,000); Sweden 2,000 (2,000); Netherlands 2,000 (3,000); United States 1,000 (2,000); and Italy 1,000 (14,000).

On April 28, 1958, the Bank of Brazil announced an export sales program for the South Brazilian cotton crop. The new program sets a minimum export price for Type 5 cotton at 25.00 U. S. cents per pound for ACL currencies (convertible or limited convertible) at the equivalent exchange rate of 82.53 cruzeiros per dollar. This represents a discount of 5 percent from the base price of 26.32 cents per pound. For other currencies, the minimum export price is 27.64 cents per pound at the equivalent exchange rate of 74.66 cruzeiros per dollar, or 5 percent more than the base price. A further discount of 2 percent is allowed for sales prefinanced in ACL currencies, provided shipment dates are at least 30 days after the date of the sales declaration. However, no overall or individual quotas have been set. Offers are valid for only 24 hours, and Brazilian authorities can raise the minimum prices or discontinue exports at any time.

Cotton production in Brazil during the 1957-58 season is estimated at 1,350,000 bales, up slightly from the 1,325,000 bales produced in 1956-57, although about 20 percent below the 1955-56 crop of 1,700,000 bales. The area planted to cotton in 1957-58 is estimated at 3,700,000 acres, down 14 percent from the 4,300,000 acres planted in 1956-57, and 26 percent below the 1955-56 area of 5,000,000 acres.

Most of the sharp acreage reductions for the past 2 seasons have been in South Brazil, particularly in the States of Sao Paulo and Parana. They are attributed principally to the 2 preceding poor crops as a result of insect infestations and rainy harvests, dissatisfaction with minimum prices, and competition from other crops. About 3 percent of the seed used for the 1957-58 crop was treated for protection against early insect damage. This was the first year that Brazil has used treated seed, and the results are reported to be satisfactory.

Brazilian cotton consumption for 1957-58 is estimated at 1,000,000 bales, down 4 percent from the 1,040,000 bales used in 1956-57.

#### SWISS POTATO YIELDS HIGH

Switzerland's potato yield over the past 4 years has averaged 24.7 metric tons per hectare (367 bushels per acre). Nearly half the harvest is fed to livestock.

About 8 percent of the crop goes into dried flakes or meal. Feed mixers must buy 7 tons of potato flakes for each 100 tons of coarse grains imported. A ton of dried flakes costing 903 francs to produce is subsidized by the government to the extent of 218 francs when the flakes are used for feed. It takes 4.5 tons of fresh potatoes to make 1 ton of flakes. There are 7 drying plants. Alcohol production is the most expensive use of surplus potatoes.

Potato acreage is expected to decrease when a new sugar factory is erected and acreage is shifted to beet production.

**WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE PRICES: Wholesale prices at specified markets,  
with comparisons  
(U. S. cents per pound)**

Country, market, and description	Butter			Cheese		
	Quotations			Quotations		
	1958	Cur-: Month : Year		1958	Cur-: Month : Year	
		rent:earlier:earlier:			rent:earlier:earlier:	
<u>United Kingdom (London)</u>						
New Zealand, finest-----	May 1	25.8 : 28.8	34.5			
Australian choicest-----	May 1	25.6 : 28.6	34.2			
New Zealand, finest						
white-----				May 1	18.9 : 19.1	24.5
Australian choicest						
white-----				May 1	18.2 : 18.5	22.5
<u>Australia (Sydney)</u>						
Choicest butter-----	May 1	46.7 : 46.7	46.7			
Choicest cheddar-----				May 1	28.2 : 28.2	28.2
<u>Irish Republic (Dublin)</u>						
Creamery butter-----	May 1	54.8 : 54.8	48.9			
Cheese-----				May 1	30.8 : 30.8	30.8
<u>Denmark (Copenhagen)</u>	Apr 24	23.1 : 29.7	33.0			
<u>France (Paris)</u>						
Charentes creamery-----	May 5	64.4 : 75.8	70.1			
<u>Germany (Kempten)</u>						
Markenbutter-----	Apr 30	65.4 : 67.0	69.1			
<u>United States</u>						
92-score creamery (N.Y.)	May 1	58.8 : 59.2	60.5			
Cheddar (Wisconsin)-----				May 1	32.8 : 35.0	35.0
<u>Netherlands (Leeuwarden)</u>						
Creamery butter-----	Apr 26	49.9 : 49.9	49.5			
Full cream Gouda-----				Apr 25	18.1 : 22.8	25.2
Edam, 40 percent-----				Apr 25	16.5 : 20.5	22.8
<u>Belgium (Hasselt)</u>	May 2	72.8 : 73.0	76.6			
<u>Canada (Montreal)</u>						
1st grade creamery-----	Apr 26	65.4 : 65.0	60.5			
Ontario white-----				Apr 26	-- : --	35.8

Source: Intelligence Bulletin, the Commonwealth Economic Committee; and the Dairy Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.



# ARGENTINA'S OILSEED PRODUCTION EXPECTED TO BE UP SHARPLY

Argentina's 1957-58 oilseed crops for the production of edible oil are expected to be about one-fifth larger than last year's outturn, according to preliminary estimates. The increase is due to larger crops of sunflower seed and cottonseed.

## OILSEEDS AND VEGETABLE OILS: Argentine production, annual 1956-58

Oilseed	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58 1/	Vegetable oil	1956	1957	1958 2/
	1,000	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	1,000
	short	short	short		short	short	short
EDIBLE	tons	tons	tons	EDIBLE	tons	tons	tons
Sunflower seed...	831.1	688.9	892.9	Sunflower.....	188.3	183.2	210.0
Peanuts.....	238.3	350.5	297.6	Peanut.....	39.3	60.8	110.0
Cottonseed.....	245.0	226.5	407.9	Cottonseed.....	18.4	22.3	40.0
Olives.....	30.4	80.1	33.1	Olive.....	5.7	14.8	8.0
INDUSTRIAL				INDUSTRIAL			
Flaxseed 3/.....	262.3	683.4	666.9	Linseed.....	48.1	173.5	165.0
Tung nuts.....	137.0	125.3	87-88	Tung.....	4/ 17.0	5/ 24.3	10.0

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Forecast. 3/ Equivalent in million bushels: 1955/56-9.4; 1956/57-24.4; 1957/58-23.8. 4/ 109,236 tons of nuts crushed with an extraction rate of 15.53 percent. 5/ 143,473 tons of nuts crushed with an extraction rate of 16.91 percent.

Compiled from official and other sources.

The first official estimate of the sunflower seed crop--893,000 short tons--represents a 30 percent increase from last year's harvest. Acreage was up one-third, but yields were reduced by isoca (cutworm) invasions and heavy rains. A crop this size would be the largest outturn since the near-record 1.1 million tons of 1950-51. Some adjustment will probably be made later on the basis of the yields shown by the late-sown fields, which will depend on weather immediately prior to harvest.

Cottonseed production is expected to be up about 80 percent from last year. In contrast, peanut yields have been much lower this year, and according to the first official estimate the crop is down 15 percent from last year's record. Olive production also is down sharply.

With respect to industrial crops, the 1957-58 flaxseed crop was almost as large as that of the previous year, but tung nut production is expected to be about one-third less. (Continued on back page.)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
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(PMGC)

Official Business

## VEGETABLE OILS: Argentine exports, annual 1955-57

Vegetable oil	:	1955	:	1956	:	1957
	:		:		:	
	:	Short	:	Short	:	Short
EDIBLE	:	<u>tons</u>	:	<u>tons</u>	:	<u>tons</u>
Sunflower seed.....	:	---	:	4,045	:	5,035
Peanut.....	:	---	:	315	:	35,656
Olive.....	:	---	:	5,455	:	8,208
	:		:		:	
INDUSTRIAL	:		:		:	
Linseed.....	:	173,492	:	77,593	:	155,843
Tung.....	:	13,634	:	14,978	:	14,849

Compiled from trade sources.

For the first time in several years, Argentina exported substantial quantities of edible oil, largely peanut oil, in 1957. Linseed oil exports also were large--more than double those of 1956.